



## SING WITH OUR KIDS

Pilot Project for Early Learning Through Community Singing  
[www.SingWithOurKids.com](http://www.SingWithOurKids.com)

### Sing With Our Kids School Program

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Curriculum • Communication • Community

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The Sing With Our Kids Program for schools is simple; provide traditional songs for school curriculum and a system for parents to access those songs and related materials, allowing them be a part of their children's day. These songs and additional materials provide an easy way to bring education about child development, early learning, and early literacy from the classroom into the home and beyond.

#### Curriculum

- Over 100 traditional song downloads that provide a cultural foundation and basis for language and early literacy development.
- List of Picture books based on many songs that build on the above, and how to locate them
- Information on how songs enhance early learning by building memory, spatial reasoning, literacy, and much more
- Instructional videos and website resources for teachers and parents

#### Communication

- The SWOK Program provides a sign for each song with QR code for teachers to print out and post when it is introduced in the classroom. Parents can simply read the QR code with their smartphones or go to website to download songs and activities to do at home.
- Titles of picture books based on songs can be shared with parents so they can use same books at home, building relationships and reinforcing school curriculum.
- The SWOK website allows out-of-town grandparents and other extended family members to learn and sing the same songs when they, SKYPE, or by using Heytell and other communication apps.

#### Community

- The SWOK website provides lots of ideas for holding public events as a way to extend school presence in the greater community
- The SWOK website provides fun ways for schools to encourage and assist use of community resources, such as the public library

**\*Sing With Our Kids** is a completely free resource and requires no password or signup. It is the result of a two-year pilot project to build early learning through community singing, and its goal is to support early learning by connecting children to their schools, family, and greater community.

(your school letterhead here)

Dear Parents,

We are excited to tell you about a new program we'll be using at (your school name here). **Sing With Our Kids** is the result of an on-going two-year pilot project being conducted in Seattle, Washington. The songs we sing at (your school name here) are an important part of your child's day. They provide comfort, continuity, and build all areas of early learning. And now we have a way for *you* to learn and sing them at home with your child! Here is what the mother of an 18-month old child participating in the pilot project wrote. She had downloaded and learned a traditional song, *When Ducks Get Up in the Morning*, and checked out the same book the teachers used in class, from her local library.

"Dear Nancy, I wish you could have seen the smile on Jack's face when I started singing 'his' song! His little eyes just lit up, he got the biggest smile, and then quickly wanted to open the book and show me all the things inside. He slept with the book last night, and this morning when I went to get him, he was sitting up in his crib just browsing thru the book making the noises!"

We know how important simple nursery rhymes and traditional songs are in building all areas of early learning, and more importantly, in building relationships, a sense of community, and sense of history and culture.

(your school name here) is proud to be participating in this exciting and innovative program, and we're excited to be offering it to you and your children. We know your children will be thrilled to have you know *their* songs, and that you will love sharing such an important part of what happens during their day.

All project materials are free and no signup or password is necessary. This means grandparents and other relatives will also be able to learn and sing your child's songs! In fact, the website has a wealth of resources including book lists, early learning and music information, interviews with experts, instructional videos, activities to do at home, and much more. There is even a special page for grandparents that provides fun ways to keep in touch by singing, recording, reading, voicemailing, and SKYPING the same songs.

You'll be receiving much more information as we implement **Sing With Our Kids**. So stay tuned!